1		2	3	4	5
Goa	FP	2007	114.250	1195	104.060
	M	551	—	481	—
Maharashtra	FP	443	66.450	0	0
Tamilnadu	FP	1300	195.000	1320	175.525
Andhra Pr.	FP	7079	627.007	6971	253.285
Orissa	FP	3000	450.000	1303	195.460
West Bengal	FP	700	105.000	149	22.305

Note: The States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, have not implemented/reported the achievement of the programme. (FP-fresh plantation had M-maintenance) (source: Directorate of Cashewnut and Cocoa Development)

Reduction in export duty on iron ore

875. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has reduced the export duty on iron ore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for this reduction;

(d) how much revenue will decrease due to this; and

(e) what are the steps Government is taking to fill this difference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In the Budget 2007-08, an export duty of Rs. 300 per metric tonne was imposed on iron ores and concentrates, all sorts, *w.e.f.* 3rd May, 2007, the rate of export duty on iron ore fines of iron content upto 62% has been reduced to Rs. 50 per metric tonne. Reduction in export duty was done after considering various representations received from the stakeholders, various trade and industry associations and Chambers of Commerce, in order to encourage the export of such ores for which a ready market for consumption within the country is not there.

(d) Whether or not there is decrease in revenue due to this reduction in export duty would depend on whether the pattern of export of various grades of iron ore changes on account of this reduction.

(e) Government has not taken any specific steps in this regard, so far.

Decline in production due to hardening of rupee

876. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production has declined in export oriented industries like metal products, textile, garments, leather and leather products from 28 per cent last year to 18 per cent this year in April—July as a result of hardening of rupee against dollar;